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Director of Central Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Wednesday
26 September 1984

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ARGENTINA: **Heightened Military Concerns**

3.5(c)

The report by an official commission investigating human rights abuses is likely to aggravate military dissatisfaction with President Alfonsin's government.

3.5(c)

An executive summary has been given to the President and a complete report is due within the next few weeks.

The report details the military's role in the disappearances of nearly 9,000 Argentines during the counterterrorist campaigns of the 1970s. The names of hundreds of military and police personnel accused of abuses are scheduled to appear in the full report, although press reports indicate that Alfonsin has the option of not publishing the names.

3.3(b)(1)

3.5(c)

Issuance of the report coincides with mounting military criticism of other government policies. 3.3(b)(1) growing apprehension in the armed forces over deteriorating economic conditions, labor unrest, and military budget cutbacks.

3.3(b)(1)

Last month nearly 100 dissatisfied active-duty and retired officers from all three services had formed an association to monitor government policies.

3.3(b)(1)

Comment: Tensions between the government and the military are likely to intensify as the names of accused personnel surface through publication or leaks. The military meetings represent a significant increase in organized opposition to Alfonsin, but the groups remain small and isolated and appear to lack a leader.

3.5(c)

To placate the armed forces, Alfonsin will have to limit trials and the pace of future investigations, even at the risk of losing popular support. His recent decision to replace the present investigating commission with one more directly under his control is a step in that direction.

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